



**Permuda Island Reserve
Local Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 07, 2016, 10a-11:15p**

Attendance

<u>LAC Partner Organization Members</u>	<u>Present</u>
DCR Archaeology, Nathan Henry	No
Town of North Topsail Beach, Deb Hill	Yes
Town of North Topsail Beach, Stuart Turille	Yes
North Carolina Coastal Federation, Mike Giles	No
Town of North Topsail Beach PD, Chief C.J. Fillinger	Yes
<u>Community Members and Community Organizations Members</u>	
Mike Yawn	Yes
<u>Others Present</u>	
Paula Gillikin, DCM/NCCR & NCNERR Central Sites Manager	
Jeremy Lonnman, DCM/NCCR & NCNERR, Intern	
Katherine Shumaker, DCM/NCCR & NCNERR, Intern	

Reserve Update (Rebecca Ellin via Paula Gillikin)

- *Staffing News*
Scott Crocker, Northern Sites Manager for the Coastal Reserve, left the Division in March to take a position with NC State Parks as the State Trail Program Manager. Scott was with our program for 3 years and made significant progress in advancing the protection and management of the Currituck Banks, Kitty Hawk Woods, and Buxton Woods Coastal Reserves. We wish Scott well in his new endeavors. The vacant position will be posted this week.
- *Legislative Update*
The N.C. Coastal Reserve and National Estuarine Research Reserve was impacted by two sections in the 2015 Appropriations Act (Session Law 2015-241) passed last year: 1. Cape Fear Estuarine Resource Restoration section [14.6.(h)] which considers the removal of a portion of the New Inlet Dam, or “the rocks,” at the Zeke’s Island Reserve, which is part of the North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve; and 2. Study further efficiencies in organization of Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR) and Department

of Environmental Quality (DEQ) section [14.31.(a-b)] which considers transferring additional agencies, divisions, and programs to DNCR for potential efficiency, cost savings, and alignment of core mission and values. The Coastal Reserve is one of the programs listed for potentially transferring.

Reports on both sections were submitted to the General Assembly in April 2016 and are located at the web links below. The Cape Fear Estuarine Resource Restoration report outlines the steps the DEQ took to implement the legislation. It is not a study of the proposal to consider removal of the Southern Component of the New Inlet Dam, nor does it provide any recommendations regarding the proposal. The efficiencies study report recommends not transferring the Coastal Reserve program from DEQ to DNCR at this time.

The Department is awaiting further direction from the General Assembly on both sections of these sections of the 2015 Appropriations Act.

Cape Fear Estuarine Resource Restoration: <https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/coastal-management/coastal-management-hot-topics/reports>

Organizational Efficiencies: http://www.ncleg.net/documentsites/committees/BCCI-6658/April%2012/Reports/7_DNCR%20Further%20Efficiencies%20with%20DEQ%20and%20WRC.pdf

- *NCNERR Management Plan Update*

Staff are continuing to write the full draft management plan update for the N.C. National Estuarine Research Reserve. Writing has taken longer than anticipated due to current workloads and receiving additional clarity on NOAA management plan guidance requirements and the various reviews needed. The immediate next step is for NOAA to review the initial draft plan. The Reserve will then seek input from the LACs, N.C. Coastal Resources Commission, and the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality. NOAA will then review the final draft management plan. A 30-day public comment period and three public meetings will be held on the final draft management plan prior to the plan's final publication. Staff anticipate the plan coming to the LACs for their review later this year.

- *LAC Community Member Appointments*

Community members serving on the local advisory committees whose terms expired in December 2014 per the Local Advisory Committee Operating Procedures document will remain on the committees through December 2017 to ensure continuity on the committees throughout the NCNERR Management Plan update process. An application and appointment process will be undertaken in 2017 for community member seats.

- *Budget*

The NCNERR will receive \$619,322 from NOAA for operation of the program during next fiscal year, up \$24,872 from last year. Funds will be used to incorporate funding for temporary staffing positions into the annual budget rather than relying on a variety of different funding sources that vary from year to year.

- *Periodic Rules Review*

The Coastal Reserve's rules, 07O, are scheduled to be reviewed by the Rules Review Commission in June 2017 as part of Periodic Review and Expiration of Existing Rules process (G.S. 150B-21.3A). To meet this deadline, staff classified each rule citation in 07O as necessary with substantive public interest, necessary

without substantive public interest, or unnecessary per G.S. 150B-21.3A (c)(1), and sought input from the local advisory committee on the draft classifications. Committee input received by staff is summarized in the table that is attached to these minutes. Next steps include summarizing input received from the 10 local advisory committees, seeking input on the draft classification from the N.C. Coastal Resources Commission and the Department of Environmental Quality prior to the draft classification being published for a 60 day public comment period.

Site Update – New Business (Paula Gillikin)

- Illegal camping continues to be a problem. An update was given on management actions taken to alleviate this issue.
- The Permuda Island habitat map is almost complete and will be distributed to members as soon as it is available.
- In May, a marine debris cleanup was held at the site and approximately 260 pounds of debris were removed.
- Periodic wildlife and plant monitoring continues as part of an effort to more fully document the island's natural history.

Member Roundtable and Other Comments

- The committee discussed acquisition by a land protection agency/organization for adjacent lands as a way to protect habitat and water quality in Stump Sound.
- The committee discussed the importance of Stump Sound's water quality. The Town of North Topsail Beach administration would like to better understand the importance of water quality and what they can do to protect it.

Public Comments

None

Actions Items

Paula Gillikin will send information to the Town of North Topsail Beach administration regarding potential sources of water quality data in Stump Sound, potential partners likely interested in projects to protect Stump Sound water quality, and information about land trusts.

Rule Section	Rule Citation	Rule Name	Agency Draft Determination [150B-21.3A(c)(1)a]	Local Advisory Committee Input on Draft Determination
SECTION .0100 - GENERAL PROVISIONS	15A NCAC 07O .0101	STATEMENT OF PURPOSE	Necessary with substantive public interest	Agree. S. Turille questions whether a specific reference to acquisition should be mentioned here
	15A NCAC 07O .0102	DEFINITIONS AS USED IN THIS SUBCHAPTER	Necessary without substantive public interest	Agree. Several members questioned if we needed more definition such as defining “commercial or industrial uses” and “public trust”
	15A NCAC 07O .0103	RESPONSIBILITIES: DUTIES OF THE COASTAL RESERVE PROGRAM	Necessary without substantive public interest	Agree
	15A NCAC 07O .0104	STATE AND LOCAL COASTAL RESERVE ADVISORY COMMITTEES	Necessary without substantive public interest	Agree
	15A NCAC 07O .0105	RESERVE COMPONENTS	Necessary without substantive public interest	Agree. S. Turille suggested changing this to reflect that additional components could be added.
SECTION .0200 - MANAGEMENT: USE AND PROTECTION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL RESERVE	15A NCAC 07O .0201	MANAGEMENT PLAN	Necessary without substantive public interest	Agree
	15A NCAC 07O .0202	RESERVE USE REQUIREMENTS	Necessary with substantive public interest	Agree